

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 5, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1810

Introduced by Assembly Member Maienschein

February 18, 2014

An act to amend Sections 1834.5 and 1834.6 of the Civil Code, relating to deposits.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AB 1810, as amended, Maienschein. Deposits for keeping: abandoned animals.

Existing law requires a veterinarian, dog kennel, cat kennel, pet-grooming parlor, animal hospital, or any other animal care facility, as provided, to humanely destroy an abandoned animal, if unable to place the animal with a new owner.

This bill, instead, would authorize the euthanasia of the abandoned animal under those circumstances.

Existing law prohibits a person from using an abandoned animal for experimentation and prohibits a person from turning over an abandoned animal to a pound or animal regulation department of a public agency.

This bill, instead, would allow a person to turn an abandoned animal over to a public animal control agency or shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, ~~or humane society shelter, or nonprofit animal rescue group~~, provided that the shelter ~~or group~~ has been contacted and has ~~not refused~~ *agreed* to take the animal.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1834.5 of the Civil Code is amended to read:

1834.5. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, whenever an animal is delivered to a veterinarian, dog kennel, cat kennel, pet-grooming parlor, animal hospital, or any other animal care facility pursuant to a written or oral agreement entered into after the effective date of this section, and the owner of the animal does not pick up the animal within 14 calendar days after the day the animal was due to be picked up, the animal shall be deemed to be abandoned. The person into whose custody the animal was placed for care shall first try for a period of not less than 10 days to find a new owner for the animal, and, if unable to place the animal with a new owner, may euthanize the animal so abandoned.

(b) If an animal so abandoned was left with a veterinarian or with a facility that has a veterinarian, and a new owner cannot be found pursuant to this section, the veterinarian may euthanize the animal.

(c) There shall be a notice posted in a conspicuous place, or in conspicuous type in a written receipt given, to warn a person depositing an animal at an animal care facility of the provisions of this section.

SEC. 2. Section 1834.6 of the Civil Code is amended to read:

1834.6. An abandoned animal, as described in Section 1834.5, shall not be used for scientific or any other type of experimentation. An abandoned animal may be turned over to a public animal control agency or shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, ~~or~~ humane society shelter, *or nonprofit animal rescue group*, provided that the shelter *or group* has been contacted and has ~~not refused~~ *agreed* to take the animal.